

~~TOP SECRET~~

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director

SUBJECT: Assignment of Staff Personnel to NRO
for Support to DCI in the Multi-Agency
Reconnaissance Program

25X1

1. I have gone over the Cline redraft of the basic NRO implementation paper. The major changes are to put the DD/I farther up front in this affair and to substitute the CIA Director of Reconnaissance for the DD/SMT. This reflects a lack of basic understanding of the intended role of the Director of Reconnaissance which protracted discussions between [redacted] have not clarified.

2. The important issue here is to distinguish between staff support to the Director in his role as steward of the over-all NRP and that of line responsibility for the CIA portions of the program. This separation of decision and competition is the problem that has troubled us so much within the NRO itself, and we have all felt it important to set a good example by separating the two functions within the Agency.

3. I urge that you sign the original. I would be happy to discuss this with you and recommend that we try to regain our previous momentum and tidy up our arrangements for implementing the new NRO agreement.

SIGNED

ALBERT D. BENSON
Deputy Director

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NRO review(s) completed.

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